

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: NYOUNG@nova.wright.edu
Subject: [471] AA4YZ Beacons
Message-ID: <01HY15B3Y6LK8WZLBN@nova.wright.edu>

I was sitting out in the outhouse with the radios to keep me warm and thought, as I soldered away, that I should listen around 7004 to see if beacons were squeakin'. Sho' 'nuff, there was the signal, and above the noise at that.

I copied "E VVV VVV de AA4YZ/QRP QSL AA4YZatAOL.COM," which sounded pretty lucid to me. Now all I have to do is remember to send an email.

It was 1855 Z on the old mechanical "Tymo-matic" or whatever it is that I bought back in 1972 at an Allied Radio Electronics store which has since become a place to buy fancy dancing/ballet/theatre duds. Time change. Like from UTC to EDST or whatever.

Anyway, it was 1855 UTC on 7004 and the s-meter jiggled a little from the signal. It was either that or the noise. But I heard the beacon. No code word though. And I heard someone key up and down trying to blot out the beacon, but the signal came on through. One guy sent "QSY DX FREQ" once. And then a pile-up started and I went inside to eat more. EAT MORE! EAT MORE!!! EAT MORE!!!!

----- =====

So I did. So there. Neat how this low power stuff works, ain't it?

73
Nils
WB8IJN

I wonder if there'll ever be a QRP Thanksgiving. Like with a light salad and maybe a bowl of vegetable soup and maybe a small broiled fish entre. A sauvignon might go nice. And later tea on the terrace as the local chaps finish the first inning of a friendly cricket match.....
Na.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [481] Alinco DX-70T as QRP rig...a review de NF3I...
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9511251738.A21379-0100000@w3eax.umd.edu>

For potential owners of the Alinco DX-70T:

People have recently posted info about the Kenwood TS-50S and Icom 706 at QRP levels. The Alinco has 50 and 100 watt settings internally, and a high/low power switch on the front panel. The receiver is not as good as my Ten-Tec OMNI V. Big shock. But it's quite a good receiver, at least as good as my 735, anyway. QST reviewed it this month.

First, to get 5 watts out:

Mess with the 100W pot, set the internal power level to the 50 watt setting and the radio will get down under 5 watts. High power at the 100 watt setting will be reduced to about 75 watts. You may have to mess with the 50 watt pot as well (I don't remember...) and the Ic control can be adjusted to pretty much shut off the transmitter if you want. Haven't adjusted this one myself...

CURRENT DRAIN

Power on, lights off, rcvr squelched	600 mA
Power on, lgts. off, loud audio	650 mA
XMIT enabled, no power out, lgts. off	1490 mA
XMIT enabled, 5 watts out CW, lgts. off	3800-4150 mA
XMIT enabled, 50 watts CW, lgts. off	11.5 A

The following additions for the panel lamps:

Setting	0	1	2	3	4	5
Add mA	0	40	70	90	110	140

So it's similar to the 706 and TS-50S. And unlike the 706, the fan only runs when it gets warm. It hasn't come on ONCE at QRP levels, even though at 4 amps (50 watts input power, 5 watts RF output = 45 watts of heat) it gets a little warm.

Nice, nice little radio. A joy to operate. Headphones work great with 100 ohms in series. Things it DOES have:

- receive CW on upper or lower sideband
- store split memories in any of 100 mems
- two VFOs
- RIT/XIT
- IF shift
- noise blanker (somewhat effective)
- priority watch
- group scanning (banks of 10 memories)
- band scanning
- remembers info from each band
- 10 db preamp/10 and 20 db attenuators
- DIP switch-settable CTCSS encode

CW offset, 650/750/850 Hz and tracking sidetone
Full QSK/seven delays of semi-QSK
Speech processor (can only be turned on/off from outside, adjustment must be made with cover off)
All mode squelch
Multi-function knob that works for fast QSYing as well as MANY other things
Slow/Fast AGC
QUICK-SPLIT setting
TX freq. spotting

Wish it had:

a front-panel headphone jack
a VOX circuit
notch filter

Everything is soft-settable, accessed by a double-click-and-hold of the FUNC button. A little tough not seeing things at first, but REALLY nice when one eventually gets used to it (p.s. this does not take very long). It's small and it's well under 6 pounds. The faceplate is removable, and yes, you do need to buy a mic extension cable since the mic connector is on the RF deck itself. General coverage xmit with mod. All filters included:

500 Hz	1 kHz	2.4 kHz	9 kHz
CW Narrow	CW wide		
	SSB Narrow	SSB Wide	
		AM Narrow	AM Wide
			FM

I thought the 1 kHz SSB filter would be too narrow, but used it during SSB SS last weekend and it worked very, very nicely. I wish the 500 Hz CW filter were sharper, but it does help.

This radio is now about \$950 and you get a free extension cable from Alinco.

Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19 QRV 40-10/6/2/440
** Yes, you CAN do VHF contests with 25W and omni antennas **
Still stuck at 138 countries confirmed on HF w/dipoles...

72 & 73 from lovely suburban DC 301-549-1022 weekends/evenings

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: AA10C@gnn.com (WILLIAM STUDLEY)
Subject: [468] Beacon results

Message-ID: <199511242133.QAA31491@mail-e1a.gnn.com>

Sorry Paul, didn't hear the beacon here at all, but will be listening agn tmw. Yes you were 579 here afterwards, but the QRM from a QRO station down 400Hz buried you, even with the plus' filter shut all the way down :-)
Hope to talk to you soon,
Bill

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: "Jim Kortge, NU8N" <jokortge@sun.lisp.com>
Subject: [473] Cascade DX
Message-ID: <9511250141.AB11079@sun>

Gang...17 meters has produced some neat dx the past two days. Worked the following using the Cascade at 4.5 watts SSB to my 160 meter inverted L. BTW, that antenna works really well on 17. 11/23/95@1545Z - EA91E, West Africa, 4X4 signal report. 11/24/95@1420Z - UR4WWT, Ukraine, 5X2. Also worked a VE7 on the 21st, late in the afternoon.

Been hearing lots of JA/JH stations on 17 between 2200-2300Z, but they aren't hearing me.(yet) Will keep plugging away. Would sure like to add that to the list with this rig.

72...Jim
Jim Kortge, NU8N | Bicycle Mobile Hams
jokortge@lisp.com | __o of America
Fenton, MI | _'\<, Mizuho 17m/40m QRP SSB
.. (*)/(*)

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Subject: [482] Digest
Message-ID: <9C5AA3B95@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

Was there a digest for Saturday? If so, I did not get it. But did ask listserv for it.

Explorer back together and partially aligned. Got the 100 kHz spread and now have to set the tones.

Thanks all.

72 de Tim WB9NLZ

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: bfollett@ditell.com
Subject: [478] DSP Recommendations/ANC-4--Long
Message-ID: <199511251620.JAA21163@solar.ditell.com>

AA3MD wrote:

>I think any type of noise
reduction or signal processing should be initiated thru the IF.<

Not true at all for noise...Any noise that can be removed that falls within the IF passband before entering the radio is the best of all solutions -- and if its really strong, it should be removed before the RF stage(s)...Which is why we all try to optimize SNR by using a better antenna, i.e., phased verticals or a directional beam, or just plain higher, and above the local noise.

This whole thread is sort of convoluted in that the ANC-4 is NOT a DSP, but rather, a Noise canceller using two antenna phasing. As such, it prevents the LOCAL noise from entering the radio. I own one, it works well for its stated purpose, and is capable of greatly improving SNR from local power lines and in-shack generated noise by phasing it out.

Tuning is simple, much easier than a manual notch filter, for example. The downsides? It won't support QSK, it lowers the overall signal level into the receiver up to 6db(on receive only), though as long as the remaining signal is above the receiver noise floor, this isn't a problem. Yes, it does introduce some xmit. loss as does anything inserted into the antenna line, but I can't measure it with my OHR wattmeter.

Now, the original question in this thread was about DSP recommendations. AA3MD's comments, applied to a DSP device, seem to be generally accepted by radio engineers...that is, apply the processing in the IF. Having said that, there are NO third-party products on the market yet, that insert into an IF stage. The only off-the-shelf solution is to buy a WJ1000 receiver -- around \$4,000, and it still has some other reported problems that are slowly getting worked out...except for internal computer generated noise.

No, I don't want to enter debates about the Kenwood 870 DSP advertising claims. Regardless of your point of view, high AF or Low IF processing point...Kenwood added the processing AFTER the normal IF stages, but before AGC.

So...for QRP, we are really talking about DSP inserted at audio output. There are, I believe, four major vendors of these products, Timewave, JPS, R.Shack,

MFJ, plus the W9GR kit.

I only have personal experience with the JPS NIR-10. I find under certain conditions, it provides a more readable signal on SSB and CW, but I currently don't have excessive powerline or neighborhood generated noise to begin with. As a straight bandwidth filter, it works great, and I assume the other vendor products do also. Noise reduction, however, requires careful tuning, introduces both processor generated distortion, and delay in hearing the signal. (I suppose this would lower the QSK speed limit if your radio had very fast t/r turnaround time)

I personally would be interested in someone's report on the new Timewave 599zx, which is hitting the market this month. It has a faster DSP processor, and has continuous tuning of the high and low cutoffs with an LCD display of your settings...seems much easier to tune, and also has memories of your personal settings.

Of course both this product, as well as the new JPS NIR-12 have a list price of \$350....more than most of the qrp rigs we use.

In summary, I would suggest using the ANC-4 noise canceller if you have high powerline noise, or a computer that is a strong rfi generator...if you can live with the above stated disadvantages. Used for this purpose, its affect is MUCH greater than any audio derived DSP...sometimes as much as 2 to 3 S units of improved SNR in a high local noise environment.

Slightly off subject: Have any of you tracked the continuing refinement of antenna phasing devices by Mark Connelly, WA1ION? He is the world's premiere SWL logger of Broadcast band stations. He can phase darn near any two antennas including beverage, longwire, active and loop to phase out local and distant transmissions. He publishes his designs through NRC, with very detailed building instructions. Of course his designs are receive only.... Still, they would be great for chasing the fox if you added a T/R switching system.

On the other hand, If you have qrp rigs with too much passband, or you want a Slight reduction in noise that cannot be achieved thru phase cancellation, try a DSP.

If you operate mobile, I highly recommend a DSP. The difference can be quite dramatic on ssb. (I haven't tried my ANC-4 in the car yet)

And if your flush with cash, don't have religious feelings about homebrew receivers...buy a Watkins Johnson 1000 --hope you like the looks of 19" rackmount. (You also get bragging rights that you use the receiver vendor as the CIA spooks throughout the world).

73 and happy holidays, Bob, WA7FCU

Bob Follett
Park City, UT 84060 Home Office E-mail: bfollett.ditell.com

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: Craig LaBarge <74740.3166@compuserve.com>
Subject: [463] DSP Recommendations?
Message-ID: <951124153429_74740.3166_EHB135-1@CompuServe.COM>

I think there was a thread on this topic some time ago, but does anyone have a recommendations for a good DSP? The noise level in my neighborhood seems to be gradually getting worse. (Either a proliferation of high-tech, digital thingamabobs or folks are starting to put up their nuclear-powered, neon holiday decorations.) :-)

Anyway, I need something that can effectively knock down the hash levels.

73, Craig WB3GCK

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@tir.com>
Subject: [462] IC-706 and TS-50S on QRP
Message-ID: <9511241518.AA20901@sun>

In October Dave, WB0GAZ, wrote his observations on the Icom IC-706 regarding current draw for various operating conditions. I have added the TS-50S to Daves findings. The TS-50S was tested with a sealed Panasonic led acid battery, 12.64 volts, that came out of a uninterruptable power system at one of my clients

(used to be customers, but the word for the year is client now!).

	IC-706	TS-50S
Unit turned off	4 ma	9.8 ma
Turned on, receive, quiet	1570 ma	890 ma
Turned on, receive, loud	1650 ma	900 ma
Transmit, PTT engaged, key up	3700 ma	1730 ma
Transmit, key down (5W out)	6900 ma	~4000 ma according to Smitty, NA5K
Transmit, key down (950 mw out)		3050 ma

Like the IC-706, the TS-50S is not a real RF efficient radio, power in vs. out, but it is a decent, small radio. Unlike the IC-706, I have not noticed the power

on the TS-50 drop when it is fed into a higher SWR.

With the TS-50S there are two filter choices - wide and narrow! SSB-wide and the optional 500 hz filter. Not bad for general operating, but definately not a "big time contest" radio, although it did fine in last June's Field Day with a Timewave DSP-9+. The only thing I feel is missing from the TS-50S is a notch, but when the DSP-9+ is in line, it doesn't seem to be too bad.

Haven't seen any reports on the little Alinco HF radio, but I'd expect that it is in the same basic class with the 50 and the 706 - cute little radio for mobile and portable, but it's not an IC-765.....in cost or features!

```
73      Hank      K8DD
*/
*/      Hank Kohl  K8DD      k8dd@tir.com
*/      MI-QRP   QRP-ARCI   G-QRP   NorCal
*/      ARRL/LM  QCWA/LM   QCAO/LM
*/
```

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: "OPS JRF KC1FB" <p01599@psilink.com>
Subject: [483] Nov SS or Tough QRP
Message-ID: <3026427468.0.p01599@psilink.com>

I fially did my paper work and got my totals for the phone test.

117 contacts in 10 hrs 20 min of operating and 47 sections

Grand Total = 10,998 pts

(If I hadn't had a DUP I would have broken 11K!)

Actually got a lot of comments like "good signal for qrp"...but lots of calls didn't get a response...just like on CW, but worse. I think it's all in the speech processor...when I use my old MFJ Super Logarithmic I seem to do much better than with the one in my ICOM 745. But I had to use the 745 to filter out the QRM...almost as bad as Field Day. Too bad I haven't gotten around to building my Cascade...would have been fun to try it, since I worked mostly 20 and 80 with a tad on 40.

Hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving weekend...it finally got cold enough to put up an 80 Meter "nearly horizontal" Loop and a windom fed

half square....gonna get me a fox someday.

72/73

Jim KC1FB

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Subject: [469] OHR
Message-ID: <39275835AF@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

Again, many thanks to all who responded to my call for help on my Explorer (I). I bet I had 20 responses---all good ideas.

I kept thinking about Dick's comment about a short from 12 volt to ground. I kept looking at the 12 volt line. I found one point I did not like. At C32, a polyester, it was attached to the 12 volt line and that did not seem right. Looking at the schematic proved that. Apparently, the board was not left in the etch long enough so I had a "balloon" of the 12 volt line to the capacitor. When I cut that, everything was fine. I called Dick and told him I had gone from 0.2 ohms to 8 KILohms. He thought that was fine.

So, am back in business. Someone thought I should have xeroxed the board before I put it together. Next time I will.

By the way, Dick expects the 30 meter crystals for the Explorer II to be in by the end of the month and will ship them then. I also am waiting.

72 de Tim WB9NLZ

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: pcalcand@sescva.esc.edu (PETER CALCANDY)
Subject: [479] QRP IS GOOD FOR SOME THINGS BUT NOT FOR OTHERS
Message-ID: <95112511480551@sescva.esc.edu>

I hope all of you on the list enjoyed your thanksgiving meal. Unfortunately, I am still waiting for my bird to cook. This year, I have decided to combine my hobby with preparing dinner. I took a 16 lb. butterball, placed two copper rods about 10 inches long into the meat of the bird and wired the rods to the output of my heath HW8. I have been sending CQ for two

days and not only have I gotten no response, the turkey is still cool. The giblets were done last night and they tasted ok but I couldn't fall asleep. I think I need to send longer CQ's or maybe change to QR0. Otherwise my thanksgiving turkey won't be done until Christmas. N2SXY my yl is really pissed off at me and wants to go to a restaurant. She says she loves me but she is also hungry. I saw a guy light up a kosher sour pickle once by doing the same thing. Maybe I should stick to pickles. Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Regards,
Peter N2kpy

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: Aa4xx <aa4xx@nando.net>
Subject: [474] Saturday Beacon
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951124211709.11611C-100000@parsifal.nando.net>

Hi gang,

The 250 microwatt "attended" beacon will be back on the air Saturday from 8 AM until 4PM EST. The frequency is 7004.0 KHz.

My congratulations to Bob Nygren, WA3YON, in Sweet Valley, PA, who has successfully copied the codeword. Bob's Rx was a Ten-Tec Paragon (with 250 Hz filter) and a GAP Voyager vertical. Bob reports that he was unable to copy the beacon with his Ten-Tec Scout and a horizontal loop.

Thanks also to K3TKS, AA8LF, AA10C, NA5N, and all the others who are listening. 72 and GL,

Paul, AA4XX

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: Phil Wheeler <pcw@netcom.com>
Subject: [484] Test message
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9511251741.A10786-0100000@netcom2>

Test message to the list (because I have no list messages in my incoming mail today. No replies, please. Just want to see if this shows up in my inbox.

Phil (pcw@netcom.com)

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: David Speegle <dspeegle@dialin.ind.net>
Subject: [472] Thanks!
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951124191125.8024F-100000@dialin.ind.net>

Thanks again! I appreciate it a lot. Look for me on ten meters when it is open. I love to work QRP on ten meters. I have a radio shack htx-100 connected to and ar-10 at 20 feet. Dave!

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=====
| David Speegle          Email Alias: David.Speegle@dialin.ind.net
|
|
| 311 S West St.
|
| Argos, IN    46511
| Phone: 219.546.3848   FAX:
=====
```

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: [475] Who wanted "Antennas" by Kraus?
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951124210825.3490A-100000@ume>

sorry to take up bandwidth but I lost address for the qrp member who wanted a copy of this book. My copy is mint condx. I forgot how much I paid for it. (I was asking 50% of whatever that was! ;-)

Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E)	*	VE6GK
Clinical Assistant Professor	*	NorCal 519 ARCI 7650 GQRP 8329
Faculty of Medicine, Univ. of Calgary	*	"Power is no substitute for skill"

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: pcalcand@sescva.esc.edu (PETER CALCANDY)
Subject: [480] winding toroids
Message-ID: <95112511581354@sescva.esc.edu>

I am working on a low pass filter and I have a question. When winding the toroids, does it matter whether you turn the windings clockwise or counterclockwise? Each filter uses two matched toroid inductors. Does

it make a difference if one is wound clockwise and the other counterclockwise?
I am soo hungry and cannot think straight.
Thanks alot
Peter N2KPY
LPSA

PS
maybe I should stick the soldering iron in the damn turkey?

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [466] re: cost of NC40A and KC1 + shipping
Message-ID: <199511241712.JAA19061@interval.interval.com>

Richard,

On behalf of Bob Dyer, here's the info:

NC40A	\$129.00
KC1	44.50
shipping	15.00

	\$188.50

Good luck building the rig. Send me email directly if you have any other questions.

73,

Wayne
N6KR

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: N5EM@aol.com
Subject: [464] Re: DSP Recommendations?
Message-ID: <951124113526_32627036@mail06.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 95-11-24 10:39:17 EST, you write:

> The noise level in my neighborhood
> seems to be gradually getting worse. (Either a proliferation of
> high-tech, digital thingamabobs or folks are starting to put up their
> nuclear-powered, neon holiday decorations

Craig,

I saw a demo of the new NIR ANC-4 Automatic Noise Canceller at the hamfest in Houston a couple of weeks ago. Certainly not a definitive demo, but it would appear this is one of those ideas whose time has come.

Basically, it is a device that sits in the antenna line. It samples noise from a separate noise antenna, positioned to provide maximum pickup from whatever your local noise source. Could even be inside if your problem is a computer or such. It provides controls to precisely balance the phase and amplitude of the incoming noise to null it at received frequency. Costs less than \$200 as I recall. I made a note to buy one in the next couple of months (didn't have the bucks at the time).

I asked about QRP power levels and was assured that it will switch at normal powers. For powers less than 1 watt, there is a resistor that can be modified for greater sensitivity in the RF sensed switch.

I don't yet have one of these. I saw a time back some chat about this device. Perhaps others can provide their opinions now that they have had time to use it for a while. I plan to buy one. I have constant S5 line noise from the 240K lines about 200 ft. from my house.

72

Ed

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: AA3MD@aol.com
Subject: [465] Re: DSP Recommendations?
Message-ID: <951124120738_32650657@emout04.mail.aol.com>

With respect to adding a line noise eliminator between the rig & antenna: I'd probably be a bit apprehensive on inserting any device on an antenna feedline due to potential signal loss from such. I think any type of noise reduction or signal processing should be initiated thru the IF. That method might prove advantageous for SWL applications or QRO for that matter, but might incur some loss at QRP pwr levels. Other opinions welcome from the gang!!!!

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: AA3MD@aol.com
Subject: [467] Re: IC-706 and TS-50S on QRP
Message-ID: <951124121841_32659083@emout06.mail.aol.com>

I tried out a 706 just the other day on a not so great antenna ... seemed to perform ok, but felt for its size, on a real radiator, the front end might overload. Anyone have any knowledge on this or any firsthand experience with this new rig?

I found the power requirements between it and the TS 50 to be most interesting, especially since I am looking for a small commercially built rig for QRP. Other than the Ten-Tec Scout/Argo & QRP+, the little 706 might be a contender...but the price!!!
Anyone's thoughts on my profound thought!!!???

Hope all had a great thanksgiving!

73's Craig AA3MD Wash. D.C.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca>
Subject: [476] Re: IC-706 and TS-50S on QRP
Message-ID: <199511251308.JAA11731@public.compusult.nf.ca>

Hi Hank and QRP-L gang,

Just some of my own personal notes on using the IC-706 vs the TS-50S for cw QRP work. I owned the TS-50S for a few months when it first came out but was very disappointed with the performance on CW. That unit is a dual conversion superhet and the second IF was at 455 KHz. I experienced a lot of blow by in SSB (also verified by others) since they used a cheap ceramic filter at 455 as the only real if filter. Also even with the optional 6 pole cw 500 Hz crystal filter I still found the unit unpleasant to use (AGC pumping, IF blowby etc). These problems were mainly manifested using a decent home QTH antenna (I'm told that when you used an inefficient mobile antenna it was not as great a problem - good way to judge a rig - just use a poor antenna - hi). Anyway my thoughts were that the dual conversion and 455 KHz IF just didn't cut it for me on the Kenwood TS-50S. I sold the rig after two months. By the way the new Alinco uses the same dual conversion line up with a 455 KHz second IF.

Now the Icom Ic-706. I have been quite pleasantly surprised by the Icom. The Icom is also dual conversion (as is just about ALL the lower priced rigs

now-a days - FT-890/900, etc) BUT it uses a 9 MHz second IF. On SSB etc the rig comes equipped with the standard 6 pole ssb crystal filter which works a lot better than any \$2 ceramic filter (you know - the kind they use in the TS-950SAT). I also bought the optional 6 pole narrow 250 Hz CW 9 MHz filter and it works great on CW and the digital modes (IC-706 has true FSK). The bottom line is that I find "listening" to the IC-706 on ssb and cw a lot more pleasant. I also don't have the AGC and blowby problems that I had with the TS-50S but that doesn't mean that the switchable rf pre-amp and attenuator doesn't come in handy when a STRONG bc station on the 40 meter novice cw band does a job on the poor weak cw signal.

Going back to your power dissipation figures - yes I don't see either of these rigs as a "power mite" competitor to the Wilderness Radio Norcal 40 or Small Wonders Lab 40 which draw a few tens of milliamps on receive. I suspected the IC-706 drew more power since there are SO MANY more bells and whistles in the IC-706 over the TS-50S. You really need to consider these heavily computerized rigs for home and mobile use.

Anyway, bottom line is that the new Icom IC-706 is one heck of a rig and is more than quite suitable for QRP contesting with the 250 Hz cw filter. By the way the next issue of QQ may have a write-up on the IC-706 from a QRPers point of view.

Thanks for your power measurements Hank - I have filed them away in my paper file (I still like hard copies of stuff - hi).

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 10:27 AM 11/24/95 EST, you wrote:

>In October Dave, WB0GAZ, wrote his observations on the Icom IC-706 regarding
>current draw for various operating conditions. I have added the TS-50S to
>Daves findings. The TS-50S was tested with a sealed Panasonic led acid
battery,

>12.64 volts, that came out of a uninterruptable power system at one of my
>clients

>(used to be customers, but the word for the year is client now!).

>

	IC-706	TS-50S
>Unit turned off	4 ma	9.8 ma
>Turned on, receive, quiet	1570 ma	890 ma
>Turned on, receive, loud	1650 ma	900 ma
>Transmit, PTT engaged, key up	3700 ma	1730 ma
>Transmit, key down (5W out)	6900 ma	~4000 ma according to Smitty, NA5K
>Transmit, key down (950 mw out)		3050 ma

>

>Like the IC-706, the TS-50S is not a real RF efficient radio, power in vs. out,
>but it is a decent, small radio. Unlike the IC-706, I have not noticed the
>power

>on the TS-50 drop when it is fed into a higher SWR.
>
>With the TS-50S there are two filter choices - wide and narrow! SSB-wide
>and the
>optional 500 hz filter. Not bad for general operating, but definately not a
>"big time contest" radio, although it did fine in last June's Field Day with a
>Timewave DSP-9+. The only thing I feel is missing from the TS-50S is a notch,
>but when the DSP-9+ is in line, it doesn't seem to be too bad.
>
>Haven't seen any reports on the little Alinco HF radio, but I'd expect that
>it is
>in the same basic class with the 50 and the 706 - cute little radio for
>mobile and
>portable, but it's not an IC-765.....in cost or features!
>
>73 Hank K8DD
>*/
>*/ Hank Kohl K8DD k8dd@tir.com
>*/ MI-QRP QRP-ARCI G-QRP NorCal
>*/ ARRL/LM QCWA/LM QCAO/LM
>*/
>
>
>

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| Bob Gobrick VO1DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB Newfoundland, Canada |
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| rgobrick@public.compuserve.nl.ca |
| Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com |
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From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: Kirkekirk@aol.com
Subject: [470] Re: QRP Beacon Results
Message-ID: <951124172143_32900022@mail04.mail.aol.com>

Greetings

I put a qrp beacon on 40m today (11/24) hoping those looking for the aa4xx beacon would hear me. To my surprise I received some reports. Here are the results:

Time: 1pm til 3pm est
QTH: Canton, Oh

Rig: HW-9 (formerly owned by wo3b)
Pwr: .25 watts
Ant: 40m Horizontal Loop at 30ft fed with 450 ohm
Freq: 7.003
Reports: wb8ruq (569), n1qyz (229), aa8lf (519), n4aox (539), aa4xx (579),
wa8lcz (weak), n2mnn (559-529), wa3yon (539)

My apologies to aa4xx for being to close to his freq. I put this beacon on 10m alot running abt 2 watts into an 80m loop, but have yet to get any replies. Thanks to all those that replied. If I put it on 40m again i'll turn down the pwr.

72, Kirk aa4yz Canton, Oh

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Nov 26 03:00:00 1995
From: tbowman@leba.net
Subject: [477] Re: Thanksgiving
Message-ID: <199511251354.IAA09239@fig.leba.net>

I second the chickadee as the QRP symbol. I've watched them here in Pennsylvania and they are just as you said. Great description of them. 73,
Tom, WA3REY

>In fact, I am also wondering if the chickadee should
>be the "official" QRP mascot. The bird is always on the air, calling for
>contact with fellow chickadees. Full of energy, always on the move,
>always scouting for slightly better operating room (although it is
>looking for a meal in that space).